

National 4-H Hall of Fame 2006 West Virginia



I.B. "Tubby" Boggs State 4-H Boys' Agent

Nominated by: West Virginia 4-H

Major 4-H Efforts:

State 4-H Boys' Agent for 22 years, and State 4-H Boys' Camp Leader for most of those years. Created "Treasures of the Trail," a leaflet of program materials sent monthly to all 4-H leaders. Introduced the State 4-H Boys Band in 1937. The "Tubby" Boggs Memorial Scholarship Fund established in his honor continues to provide camp scholarships to 4-H members.

Biography:

"Tubby" Boggs served as the State 4-H Boys' Agent, and many of those years as State 4-H Boys' Camp Leader. He created "Treasures of the Trail," a leaflet of program materials sent monthly to all 4-H leaders. The publication continues today in WV 4-H. He introduced the State 4-H Boys Band in 1937 to provide new opportunities for youth. He was instrumental in bringing back the Boys' Camp after WWII. This was accomplished through the development of a strong staff, including many youth men returning from military service.

Gertrude Warren, speaking to a group of 4-H club leaders in 1933 said, "No state has contributed more to the national 4-H club program than West Virginia." In the same year, "Tubby" wrote that West Virginia was a pioneer in 4-H camp fire programs and candle-lighting ceremonies and both features were a part of the club program in every section of the country and in National 4-H Camp in Washington, DC. Boggs was hailed as an excellent writer and ornithologist, and a true conservationist. For many years "Tubby" directed the WV Conservation Camp at Camp Caesar.

Quotes:

Woodrow Wilson, editor of the "Wirt County Journal" wrote that "Tubby" Boggs was "a living symbol of things that are right and good, especially for farm boys and girls. His daily living was by the 4-H motto: 'To Make the Best Better,' and he was always ready to challenge a boy or girl to improve not only his handiwork, but his way of living."

George Sharpe wrote, "I don't expect that many people realize just how much or how many things he did during his day. But with all that, he was never too busy to help with your problems or to offer a word or two of advice."

Photo:



Boggs at "Teepee Shrine" at Jackson's Mill dedicated to the camp's founder William "Teepee" Kendrick.